GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:178
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
FACILITIES FOR REGIONAL PRODUCERS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities being given by the Government to the regional producers with a view to encourage regional languages and culture through regional relay centres;

(b) whether regional producers are not able to produce quality programmes due to high transmission fee of Doordarshan; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to encourage regional talented artistes and to give them employment?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): Prasar Bharati has informed that they invite proposals from private producers to encourage production of programmes in regional languages and on culture, through commissioning and sponsorship, depending on the requirements of the regional channels.

(b): Prasar Bharati has informed that the producers are required to pay a telecast fee for sponsored programmes and also that no Kendra has so far received any complaint regarding telecast fee.

(c): Prasar Bharati is a statutory autonomous corporation and has autonomy in programme matters. Government has no role to play.